



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT  
OF HEALTH SERVICES

# **Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)**

## **Summary**

### **2014–2015 Season**

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## **Executive Summary**

This report summarizes respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) activity for the 2014–2015 surveillance season (September 28, 2014 through October 3, 2015).

- ✓ RSV activity peaked earlier in the 2014–2015 season than in the previous two seasons.
- ✓ Eighty-five percent of cases were among children less than five years of age.
- ✓ The highest rates of reported RSV cases were in infants less than one year of age and children one to four years of age.
- ✓ Surveillance activities performed by ADHS remained unchanged overall from the previous season.

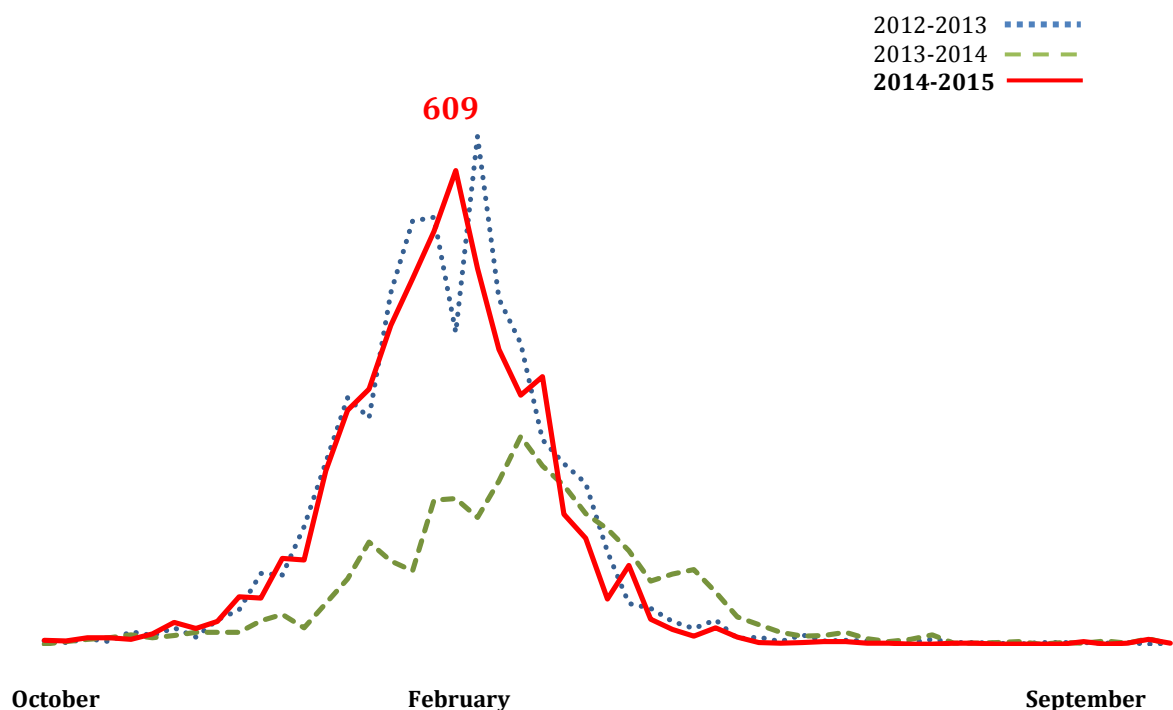
## Laboratory-Confirmed RSV Activity

Positive RSV tests are reported to ADHS by laboratories under Arizona Administrative Code R9-6-204.

RSV is a respiratory virus most prevalent in the U.S. during winter months and among young children. During the 2014–2015 season, a higher number of laboratory-confirmed RSV cases had been reported compared to the previous 2013–2014 season. This high number of reported cases was similar to (but did not exceed) the record number of cases reported during the 2012–2013 season.

Reporting of laboratory-confirmed cases began to increase in late December, with peak activity in February, and continued at elevated levels through April. Overall, 5,436 laboratory-confirmed RSV cases were reported during the 2014–2015 season. See [Table 1](#) in the Appendix for more information.

### 2014–2015 RSV activity peaked in February, earlier than the previous seasons

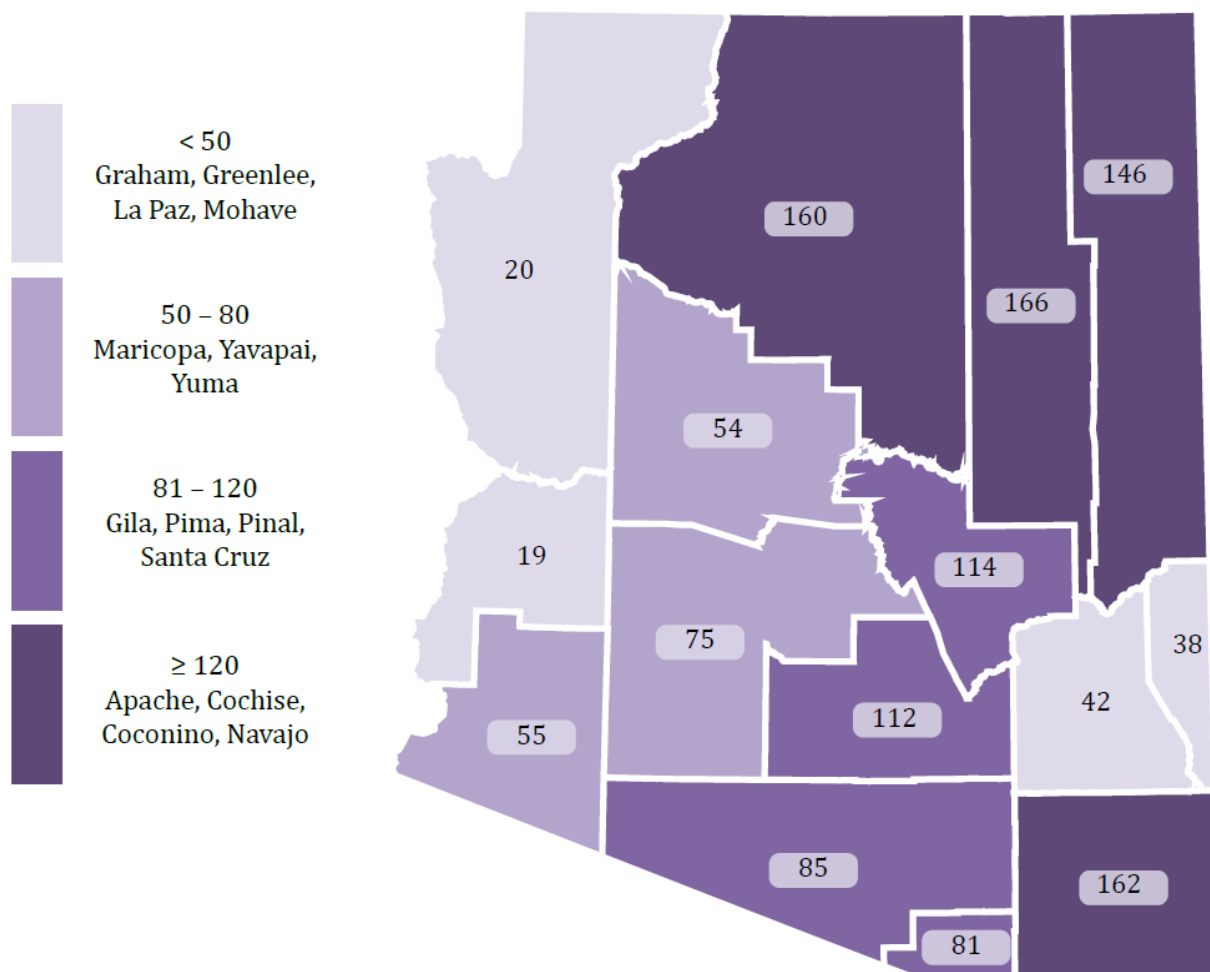


## Laboratory-Confirmed RSV Population Rates, per 100,000 people

While the aggregate number of laboratory-confirmed cases reported throughout the season is indicative of disease incidence, it is also necessary for us to look at the population rate of RSV cases (number of cases per 100,000 people) to assess the disease burden in the population.

In the 2014–2015 season, Maricopa, Pima and Pinal Counties reported the most cases; however Navajo, Cochise, and Coconino Counties reported the highest population rates of reported RSV cases. Differences in rates may reflect not only differences in the level of RSV circulating in the community, but also testing and reporting practices. See [Table 1](#) in the Appendix for more information.

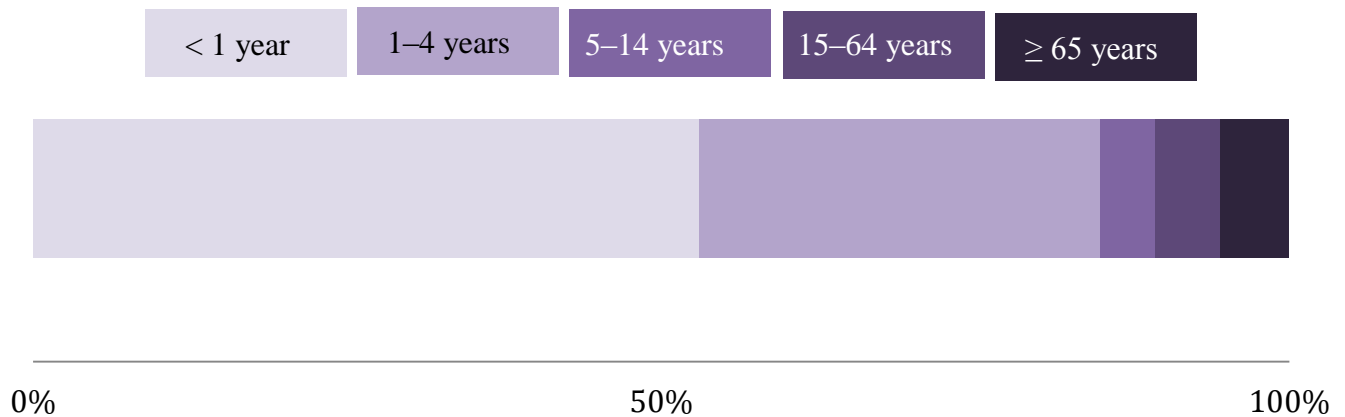
### Population rates varied by county with rates ranging from 61 cases to 535 cases per 100,000 people



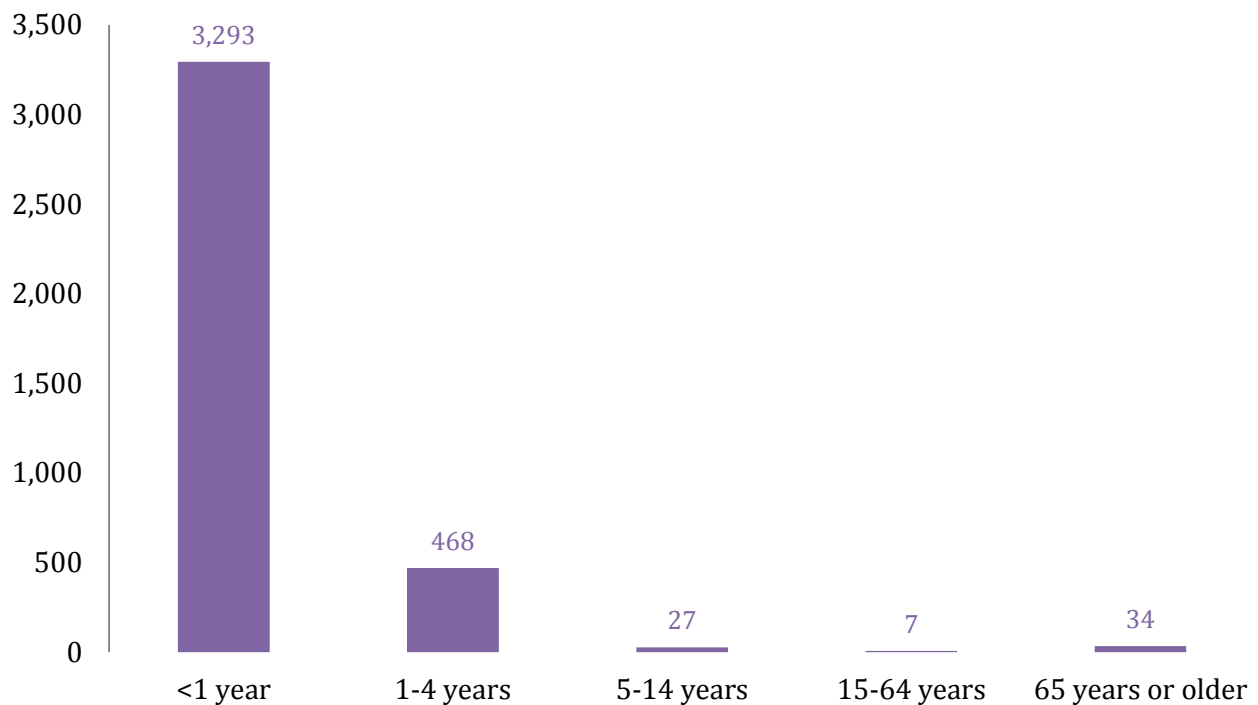
## Laboratory-Confirmed RSV by Age Group

RSV is a very common respiratory illness. Most infants will become infected before the age of 1.

Infants and children under the age of 5 are the most common age group to be infected with RSV. Infants and young children can be at higher risk for more severe diseases especially if they are premature infants or have other medical conditions such as congenital heart or chronic lung disease. See [Table 2](#) in the Appendix for more information.



## Laboratory-Confirmed RSV Age Rates, per 100,000 people



# Appendix

## **Appendix 1: Arizona RSV Surveillance System**

### **Components of the Arizona RSV Surveillance System**

- ✓ Laboratory-reporting of positive tests for RSV

### **Goals of the Arizona RSV Surveillance System**

- ✓ Find out when and where RSV activity is occurring
- ✓ Assess the intensity of RSV activity and monitor the impact on health
- ✓ Track trends in disease activity and identify the populations most affected



## Appendix 2: Glossary of Key Terms

**2014–2015 Surveillance Season:** The season is defined by surveillance weeks. The first day of the 2014–2015 surveillance season was September 28th, 2014, or week 40 and the 2014–2015 surveillance season continued through October 3rd, 2015, or week 39.

**Rates:** All rates described in this report are calculated using 2014 population denominators from the Vital Statistics Office at ADHS, and are derived from data from the National Vital Statistics and State Demographer’s Offices. County- or age-specific denominators are used when appropriate. For further information, see <http://www.azdhs.gov/plan/menu/info/pop/index.php>.

**Arizona Administrative Code R9-6-204:**  
[http://apps.azsos.gov/public\\_services/Title\\_09/9-06.pdf](http://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_09/9-06.pdf)

## Appendix 3: Additional Data Tables

### Laboratory-Confirmed RSV Cases

**Table 1:** Number of Laboratory-Confirmed RSV Cases Reported and Rate per 100,000 Population, by County

County	Number of Laboratory-Confirmed Cases	Rate per 100,000 population
Apache	105	146.1
Cochise	211	162.8
Coconino	224	160.7
Gila	62	114.4
Graham	16	41.8
Greenlee	4	38.2
La Paz	4	18.9
Maricopa	3,005	75.0
Mohave	42	20.6
Navajo	182	166.7
Pima	862	85.6
Pinal	445	112.3
Santa Cruz	40	80.7
Yavapai	117	54.3
Yuma	117	55.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,436</b>	<b>81.5</b>

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### RSV Activity by Age

**Table 2:** Number of Laboratory-Confirmed RSV Cases Reported by Age Group

Age Group	Number of Cases (2014–2015 Season)	Cases per 100,000 population
<1 year	2,867	3,293.4
1 to 4 years	1,727	468.5
5 to 14 years	242	26.8
15 to 64 years	278	6.7
65 years or older	297	33.7
Unknown age	25	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,436</b>	<b>81.5</b>

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